

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMERCE

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOHN WITT**, on January 26, 1999 at
8:07 A.M., in Room 201 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. John Witt, Chairman (R)
Sen. Tom Keating, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. William Crismore (R)
Rep. Dick Haines (R)
Sen. Linda Nelson (D)
Rep. Joe Tropila (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Summer Alger, Committee Secretary
Roger Lloyd, Legislative Branch
Doug Schmitz, OBPP

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 2 - Dept. Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Budget
Executive Action: HB 2 - Dept. Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Budget

Roger Lloyd gave the committee a packet that addressed
Differences from the Executive Budget and from the Base as of
1/25/99, and Executive Budget General Fund New Proposals.

EXHIBIT (jnh20a01)

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**HEARING ON HB 2 - DEPT. FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS BUDGET - PARKS
DIVISION**

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

Doug Monger, Administrator, Parks Division, gave the division overview presentation, while answering questions from the committee on the satisfaction of park patrons. **Mr. Monger** discussed 1998 Park Accomplishments which was addressed in the folder of brochures and information, given to committee members, on the division.

EXHIBIT(jnh20a02)

Sen. Nelson asked how much money is coming in from the check-off. **George Ochenski, MT State Parks Foundation**, commented on surveys on fees and on weed control. **Sen. Nelson** asked about primitive parks, then **Roger Lloyd** went into discussion of Table 9 on page **C-32** of the Legislative Budget Analysis 2001 Biennium: Agency Budgets, Vol. 1, January 1999, LFD. **Sen. Keating** then asked about snowmobile taxes.

**The Legislative Budget Analysis (LBA) 2001 budget book will not be referred to as an exhibit, however, budget information from other sources will be noted as exhibits.*

Present Law Adjustments:

DP 601

Doug Monger discussed this decision package, while responding to budget questions from **Sen. Keating** and **Rep. Tropila**. **Roger Lloyd** commented on the LFD Issues, and **Rep. Tropila** inquired about the 1997 Legislative appropriation of \$100,000. **Sen. Keating** asked what they would do with the \$50,000 and **Doug Schmitz** commented that a language appropriation may be good.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 15.8}

Motion/Vote: **SEN. KEATING** moved that **DP 601 BE ADOPTED AS ONE-TIME-ONLY & RESTRICTED**. **SECONDED** by **REP. HAINES**. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 603

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This decision package is a request to restore the base to FY98 levels at \$13,600/year. **Sen. Keating** asked about their equipment goal and **Rep. Haines** questioned if there was a cost analysis done on staff versus contracting.

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{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 24.4}

Motion/Vote: REP. TROPILA moved that DP 603 BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by SEN. KEATING. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 604

Sen. Nelson moved this decision package and was seconded by **Rep. Haines**. **Sen. Keating** questioned the general fund appropriation and asked if there were \$52,000 elsewhere in the budget they could use for contracting. **Rep. Tropila** inquired about the Lewis and Clark Caverns while **Roger Lloyd** directed the committee to Understated FTE Level on page C-37 of the LBA 2001 budget book. **George Ochenski** commented, then **Sen. Nelson**, along with **Rep. Haines**, withdrew her motion. No action was taken on DP 604.

DP 605

Roger Lloyd asked the committee to bypass this decision package also, because it is not in the present law adjustment table. No action was taken on DP 605.

DP 606

Sen. Keating discussed this decision package and its funding, which has to be matched 3:1 (Federal:State).

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. OF FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 7.9}

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING moved that DP 606 BE ADOPTED, INCLUDING EMERGENCY SERVICES, AS ONE-TIME-ONLY & RESTRICTED SECONDED by REP. TROPILA. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 607

Sen. Keating asked what happens to funds that are not spent at the end of the biennium, and how much reversion there is into

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cash accounts. **Doug Schmitz** commented on carry-over of authority, and **Mr. Lloyd** gave a word of caution.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 12.7}

Motion/Vote: SEN. CRISMORE moved that DP 607 BE ADOPTED.
SECONDED by SEN. KEATING. Motion carried 5-1 with Witt voting no.

Recess @ 9:55am *{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 19.2}*

DP 608

Alan Brown, President, MT Snowmobile Association, commented on this decision package, as did **Rep. Haines**. **Doug Monger** handed out a Trails Program Staffing Request as a supplement to **Rep. Haines'** issue, who then commented that this is a one-time-only request to be funded from money already appropriated.
EXHIBIT (jnh20a03)

Chairman Witt questioned what this person would do at a Grade 14 level, and **Sen. Keating** commented, as well as questioned, that .85 FTE is an odd part of a person. He asked the division about contracting, rather than one-time-only, if there is a way to restrict personal services to certain jobs. **Chairman Witt** asked to look at this as a new proposal.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7.2}

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING moved that DP 608 BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by SEN. CRISMORE. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 609

Roger Lloyd responded to this decision package (is a \$5.00 fee, not \$50.00).

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7.6}

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING moved that DP 609 BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by SEN. CRISMORE. Motion carried unanimously.

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DP 610

Doug Monger discussed this decision package and handed out an Recreational Trails amendment to the executive budget request.

EXHIBIT (jnh20a04)

Roger Lloyd commented on his LFD Issue and Table 10 on page C-35 of the LBA 2001 budget book. **Rep. Haines** inquired about eliminating the \$5.00 decal fee and impacts, **Doug Monger** clarified that it would be eliminating match funds, and **Mr. Lloyd** passed out a copy of the statue on Decal required - fee - disposition.

EXHIBIT (jnh20a05)

Sen. Keating cautioned the committee on the reduction of decal fees, and **Rep. Tropila** asked about the snowmobiler self-imposed fee. He then asked if they could stick the .85 FTE in this program and still use them for other projects, or could they put half of the .85 FTE in the OHV program so as to not totally restrict use of the FTE. **Rep. Tropila** asked if there were not any employees already running around that could do these projects without adding FTE's.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 23.8}

Motion/Vote: REP. HAINES moved to INCREASE THE .85 FTE TO 1 FTE BE ADOPTED, DIVIDED IN HALF FOR EACH PROGRAM AND RESTRICTED. SECONDED by SEN. NELSON. Motion carried unanimously.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 29.7}

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING moved that DP 610 BE ADOPTED WITH FTE ADJUSTMENT. SECONDED by SEN. CRISMORE. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 611

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1.6}

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Motion/Vote: REP. TROPILA moved that DP 611 BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by SEN. NELSON. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 612

Roger Lloyd commented that, usually, Legislative Contract Authority(LCA)is accompanied by language, in this case, that of page C-4 of the LBA 2001 budget book. Director Graham commented that global motion can be made to cover all LCA's.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 6.9}

Motion/Vote: SEN. CRISMORE moved that DP 612 BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by SEN. KEATING. Motion carried unanimously.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 8.6}

Motion: SEN. NELSON moved the GLOBAL MOTION OF LEGISLATIVE CONTRACT AUTHORITY LANGUAGE ON PAGE C-4 OF THE LBA 2001 BUDGET BOOK BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by REP. HAINES. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 613

Rep. Tropila asked if some of the fishing access site are contracted out for maintenance, and Roger Lloyd commented on his LFD Issue. Sen. Crismore commented that he is very much in favor of this, then George Ochenski addressed the bills that may affect fishing access (HB 314 & HB 315). Rep. Haines inquired more into the FTE's, and Rep. Tropila commented on behalf of the clean access sites.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 22.6}

Motion/Vote: SEN. CRISMORE moved that DP 613 BE ADOPTED AND RESTRICTED. SECONDED by SEN. KEATING. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess @ 11:08am Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 23.3

DP 605

Roger Lloyd commented that he has no idea why DP 605 is not in the present law adjustments table, but is in the budget.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 25}

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON moved that DP 605 BE ADOPTED. SECONDED by SEN. CRISMORE. Motion carried unanimously.

DP 604

Though this decision package was not acted upon earlier, the committee opened it back up for discussion. **Sen. Keating** asked if there is not any state special revenue to use as a match for community service projects, to which the response was yes, though would be to the detriment/reduction elsewhere. **Director Graham** addressed the program proposed budget table at the top of page C-32 of the LBA 2001 budget book, stating that the request could be reduced by \$2,880 general fund for no net gain. **Sen. Keating** questioned, aiming for clarification.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - DEPT. FW&P BUDGET - PARKS DIVISION

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 6.9}

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON moved that DP 604 BE ADOPTED WITH REDUCTIONS OF \$2,880 GENERAL FUND IN FY00 AND \$2,127 GENERAL FUND IN FY01. SECONDED by SEN. CRISMORE. Motion carried 5-1 with Witt voting no.

HEARING ON HB 2 - DEPT. FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS BUDGET - FISHERIES
DIVISION

Larry Peterman, Administrator, Fisheries Division, introduced this next division. **Tim Gallagher, Assistant Administrator, Fisheries Division**, handed out a division packet that was followed closely during the overview presentation. During the presentation, Fisheries Beyond 200: Fisheries Program Strategic Plan was also handed out to the committee.
EXHIBIT(jnh20a06) & **EXHIBIT(jnh20a07)**, respectively.

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Sen. Keating inquired as to why stream access is declining, and if the stream access right-of-way is still within the high water mark. **Sen. Crismore** then asked about land exchange access securities. Cisco were discussed next, and **Sen. Keating** finished the meeting with an inquiry into whirling disease, and if other states are working on it.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:58 A.M.

REP. JOHN WITT, Chairman

SUMMER ALGER, Secretary

JW/SA

EXHIBIT (jnh20aad)